

Funding Opportunity: Strengthening Afghanistan's National Strategic Communications
Funding Opportunity Number: SCAKAB-16-GR-007-SCA-04052016
Questions and Answers

Question 1: We've noticed that there are 1-page limits for the Cover Sheet and Key Personnel but no indication of page limits for other sections. I'd like to confirm that this is accurate and we aren't overlooking any additional limits or requirements.

Answer: If a page limit is not explicitly stated in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) document, there is no maximum page limit for that section.

Question 2: In the “executive summary”, the language used states that the applicant will “assist in the development of public content”. Could you please clarify the term “assist”?

Answer: The grantee or its sub-recipient will produce media content for possible use by the Afghan Government. The Afghan Government will approve all content and facilitate its distribution to media outlets, including social media. The grantee, under the supervision of government officials, may assist with the distribution of content.

Question 3: If we are required to produce the content, should we name a production house in our proposal or select a production house during the implementation through a competitive process?

Answer: We encourage applicants to name any sub-recipients in the proposal so that they may fully comply with the NOFO requirements. Organizations may sub-contract with other entities, but only one entity can be the prime recipient of the award. When sub-contracting with other entities, the responsibilities of each entity must be clearly defined in the proposal's narrative and budget details. For each sub-grant/contract please provide a detailed line item breakdown explaining specific services. In the sub-grant budgets, provide the same level of detail for personnel, travel, supplies, equipment, direct costs, fringe benefits, and indirect costs as required of the direct applicant.

Question 4: Could the embassy please explain acceptable security protocols referenced in greater detail?

Answer: It is up to the applicant to determine adequate security measures for this project, and those measures should be included in the proposal. Reasonable costs for necessary security are allowable expenses and may be included in the proposed budget.

Question 5: What are the specific requirements needed?

Answer: It is up to the applicant to determine adequate security measures for this project, and those measures should be included in the proposal. Reasonable costs for necessary security are allowable expenses and may be included in the proposed budget.

Question 6: Is a security company required? Would this entail an expatriate security consultant and/or company?

Answer: It is up to the applicant to determine adequate security measures for this project, and those measures should be included in the proposal. Reasonable costs for necessary security are allowable expenses and may be included in the proposed budget.

Question 7: What type of housing is required for expatriate staff (a compound, or armed guards for an apartment building or guesthouse)?

Answer: It is up to the applicant to determine adequate security measures for this project, and those measures should be included in the proposal. Reasonable costs for necessary security are allowable expenses and may be included in the proposed budget.

Question 8: What type of vehicle is required to meet the security parameters? Would a soft-skin vehicle suffice or is an armored car required?

Answer: It is up to the applicant to determine adequate security measures for this project, and those measures should be included in the proposal. Reasonable costs for necessary security are allowable expenses and may be included in the proposed budget.